

## **DRAFT #6**

### **ALS/ILS OTEP Proposed Rule Change**

**NOTE: Definitions changes in conjunction with the ALS/ILS OTEP proposed rule changes and house keeping changes.**

#### **WAC 246-976-010 Definitions.**

Definitions in RCW 18.71.200, 18.71.205, 18.73.030, and 70.168.015 apply to this chapter. In addition, unless the context plainly requires a different meaning, the following words and phrases used in this chapter mean:

**"Continuing medical education (CME) method"** ~~means~~ is the completion of ongoing education courses after initial certification to maintain and enhance skill and knowledge to meet educational requirements for recertification. CME requires the successful completion of a written and practical skills examination to recertify.

**"Ongoing training and evaluation program (OTEP) method"** ~~means is a course-program of education for EMS personnel that is approved by the MPD and the Department of Health to meet the education requirements for recertification, and includes knowledge and skills evaluations. Authorized for first responders and EMTs in RCW 18.73.081 (3)(b).~~

**"Prehospital trauma triage procedures"** means the method used by prehospital providers to evaluate injured patients and determine whether to activate the trauma system from the field. It is described in WAC 246-976-930(2)(3).

**"Senior EMTS Instructor (SEI)"** means an individual approved to be responsible for the quality of instruction and the conduct of basic life support training courses.

**WAC 246-976-161 ~~Continuing medical education (CME), skills maintenance, and ongoing training and evaluation (OTEP).~~ Education Requirements for Recertification**

- ~~(1) General requirements. See Tables A and B. You must document your annual CME and skills maintenance requirements, as indicated in the tables. You must complete all CME and skills maintenance requirements for your current certification period to be eligible for recertification.~~
- ~~(2) (a) You must complete the number of MPD-approved CME hours appropriate to your level of certification, as indicated in Table A.~~
  - ~~(b) If you are a first responder or EMT, you may choose to complete an approved OTEP program instead of completing the required number of CME hours and taking the recertification exams.~~
- ~~(3) You must demonstrate proficiency in certain critical skills, indicated in Table B, to the satisfaction of the MPD:~~
- ~~(4) IV starts.~~
  - ~~(a) During your first year of certification as an IV technician, combined IV/airway technician, ILS technician, or paramedic, you must perform a minimum of thirty-six successful IV starts. EXCEPTION: If you have completed a certification period as an IV or ILS technician, you do not need to meet this requirement during your first year of certification as a paramedic.~~
  - ~~(b) By the end of your initial certification period, you must perform a minimum of one hundred eight successful IV starts.~~
- ~~(5) Intubations.~~
  - ~~(a) During your first year of certification as an airway technician, combined IV/airway technician, combined ILS/airway technician or paramedic, you must perform a minimum of twelve successful endotracheal intubations. EXCEPTION: If you have completed a certification period as an airway technician, you do not need to meet this requirement during your first year of certification as a paramedic.~~
  - ~~(b) By the end of your initial certification period, you must perform a minimum of thirty-six successful endotracheal intubations.~~

(1) Education is required for the recertification of all certified EMS personnel. This education may be obtained by completing the continuing medical education (CME) method, or through the Ongoing Training and Evaluation Program (OTEP) method, identified below.

**(a) To complete the CME method you must:**

- (i) Complete and document the educational requirements, indicated in Table A of this section, appropriate to your level of certification. Education must follow procedures identified in “Education Requirements for the Recertification of EMS Personnel”, published by the Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System (date).
- (ii) Complete and document the skills maintenance requirements, indicated in table B of this section, appropriate to your level of certification.

(A) IV starts for IV technicians, combined IV/airway technicians, ILS technicians, combined ILS/airway technicians, or paramedics:

(I) During your first certification period, you must perform a minimum of 108 successful IV starts.

- During the first year, you must perform a minimum of thirty-six successful IV starts.
- During the second and third year, you must perform a minimum of seventy-two successful IV starts, which may be averaged over the second and third years of the certification period.

(II) If you have completed a certification period, you must demonstrate proficiency in starting IVs to the satisfaction of the MPD (see Later Certification Periods in Table B of this section).

(B) Endotracheal Intubations for airway technicians, combined IV/airway technicians, combined ILS/airway technicians or paramedics:

(I) During your first certification, you must perform a minimum of thirty-six successful endotracheal intubations

- During the first year, you must perform a minimum of twelve successful endotracheal intubations.
- During the second and third year, you must perform a minimum of 24 endotracheal intubations, which may be averaged over the second and third years of the certification period.

(II) If you have completed a certification period certified, you must perform a minimum of twelve successful endotracheal intubations, which may be averaged over the three year certification period (see Later Certification Periods in Table B of this section).

(iii) Successfully complete the Washington State written examination and practical skills examination as identified in 246-976-171.

**(b) To complete the OTEP method you must:**

(i) Complete a DOH and MPD approved OTEP that includes requirements indicated in Table A of this section, appropriate to your level of certification. Education must follow procedures identified in the “Education Requirements for the Recertification of EMS Personnel”, published by the Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System (date):

(ii) Complete and document the skills maintenance requirements, indicated in Table B of this section, appropriate to your level of certification.

(A) Skills maintenance requirements may be obtained as part of the OTEP.

(B) Individuals participating in an OTEP meet skill maintenance requirements by demonstrating proficiency in the application of those skills to the county MPD during the OTEP.

**(c) Any applicant changing from the OTEP method to the CME method must meet all requirements of the CME method.**

**(d) Education Requirements for recertification – Table A:**

<b>TABLE A: EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR RECERTIFICATION</b>	<b>Basic Life Support</b>		<b>Intermediate Life Support (EMT-Intermediate Levels)</b>					<b>Paramedic (ALS)</b>
	FR	EMT	IV	Air	IV/Air	ILS	ILS/Air	Paramedic
<b><u>Annual Requirements</u></b>								
CPR & Airway	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Spinal Immobilization	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Patient Assessment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<b><u>Certification Period Requirements</u></b>								
Infectious Disease	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Trauma		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pharmacology		X	X	X	X	X	X	
<u>*Other Pediatric topics</u>	X	2 hrs X	2 hrs X	2 hrs X	2 hrs X	2 hrs X	2 hrs X	6 hrs X
<del>Other CME, for a Total of:</del> <u>*Additional Education course hours totaling:</u> <del>OR, complete an equivalent OTEP program as described in WAC 246-976-171</del>	15 hrs  X	30 hrs  X	45 hrs  per MPD for BLS skills	45 hrs  per MPD for BLS skills	60 hrs  per MPD for BLS skills	60 hrs  per MPD for BLS skills	75 hrs  per MPD for BLS skills	150 hrs  per MPD for BLS skills

“X” indicates an individual must demonstrate knowledge and competency in the topic or skill.

\* Individuals obtaining education through the CME method must complete the total number of educational course hours indicated above. However due to the competency based nature of OTEP, fewer class hours may be needed to complete these requirements than the total course hours indicated above.

**(e) Skill maintenance requirements – Table B:**

TABLE B: SKILLS MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS	Intermediate Life Support (EMT-Intermediate Levels)					Paramedic (ALS)
	IV	Air	IV/Air	ILS	ILS/Air	Paramedic
<b>First Certification Period</b>						
• <b>First Year of Certification</b>						
IV Starts						
<b>Continuing Education Method-</b> may not be averaged (see par 4)	36		36	36	36	36
<b>OTEP method</b>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
Endotracheal intubations						
<b>Continuing Education Method</b> - may not be averaged (see par 5)		12	12		12	12
<b>OTEP method</b>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
Demonstrate Intraosseous infusion placement proficiency	X		X	X	X	X
• <b>Second and Third Years of Certification</b>						
IV Starts —average (see par 4)	<del>36</del>		<del>36</del>	<del>36</del>	<del>36</del>	<del>36</del>
<b>*Continuing Education Method –</b>	<del>72</del>		<del>72</del>	<del>72</del>	<del>72</del>	<del>72</del>
<b>OTEP method</b>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
Endotracheal Intubations —average (see par 5)		<del>12</del>	<del>12</del>		<del>12</del>	<del>12</del>
<b>**Continuing Education Method</b>		<del>24</del>	<del>24</del>		<del>24</del>	<del>24</del>
<b>OTEP method</b>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
Demonstrate Intraosseous infusion placement proficiency	X		X	X	X	X
• <b>During the Certification Period</b>						
Demonstrate Pediatric airway management proficiency		X	X		X	X
Multi-Lumen Airway placement				Per MPD <u>X</u>	Per MPD <u>X</u>	
Defibrillation				Per MPD <u>X</u>	Per MPD <u>X</u>	
<b>Later Certification Periods</b>						
• <b>Annual Requirements</b>						
IV Starts – demonstrate proficiency	X		X	X	X	X
Endotracheal Intubations —average (see par 4)						
<b>Continuing Education Method</b>		4	4		4	4
<b>OTEP method</b>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
Demonstrate Intraosseous infusion placement proficiency	X		X	X	X	X
• <b>During the Certification Period</b>						
Demonstrate Pediatric airway management proficiency		X	X		X	X
Multi-Lumen Airway placement				Per MPD <u>X</u>	Per MPD <u>X</u>	
Defibrillation				Per MPD <u>X</u>	Per MPD <u>X</u>	

X" indicates an individual must demonstrate proficiency of the skill to the satisfaction of the MPD.

\* The second and third year requirement of 72 IV starts may be averaged over the 2 years.

\*\* The second and third year requirement of 24 endotracheal intubations may be averaged over the 2 years.

**(f) Skill Maintenance requirements for individuals requesting reciprocal certification:**

- (i) Reciprocity candidates credentialed less than three years must meet Washington State's skill maintenance requirements for the initial certification period identified above.
- (ii) Reciprocity candidates credentialed three years or more must meet Washington State's skill maintenance requirements for second and subsequent certification periods.
- (iii) The County MPD may evaluate an individual's skills to determine if the individual is proficient in the application of those skills prior to recommending certification. The MPD may recommend an individual obtain specific training to become proficient in any skills deemed insufficient by the MPD or delegate.

**(g) Description of selected terms used in the tables A and B:**

- Class hours: actual hours spent to become knowledgeable in a topic(s) or proficient in a skill(s).
- Course hours: The predetermined time scheduled to conduct a course or topic.
- CPR and airway management includes foreign body obstruction and the use of airway adjuncts appropriate to the level of certification, for adults, children and infants.
- Endotracheal intubation: Proficiency in endotracheal intubations, at least half of which must be performed on human subjects. With written authorization of the MPD, up to half of the intubations may be performed on artificial training aids.
- Infectious disease: Infectious disease training must meet the requirements of chapter 70.24 RCW.
- Intraosseous infusion: Proficiency in intraosseous line placement in pediatric patients.
- "IV starts": Proficiency in intravenous catheterization performed on sick, injured, or preoperative adult and pediatric patients. With written authorization of the MPD, IV starts may be performed on artificial training aids.
- ~~Pediatric airway: Proficiency in pediatric airway management~~
- Other Pediatric Topics: This includes patient assessment, CPR and airway management, and spinal immobilization and packaging anatomy and physiology and medical problems including special needs patients. Education must follow the procedures identified in "Education Requirements for the Recertification of EMS Personnel", published by the Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System (date).
- Patient Assessment: This includes adult, pediatric and geriatric patients.

- Pharmacology: Pharmacology specific to the medications approved by ~~your~~the MPD (not required for first responders).
- Proficiency: Ability to demonstrate and perform all aspects of a skill properly ~~demonstrated~~ to the satisfaction of the MPD.
- Spinal immobilization and packaging: This includes adult, pediatric and geriatric patients.

## **WAC 246-976-171 To Apply For Recertification/Renewal.**

~~(1) The department will publish procedures for renewal of certification, including:~~

- ~~(a) An ongoing training and evaluation program (OTEP) of skills as authorized in RCW 18.73.081 (3)(b) for first responders and EMTs; and~~
- ~~(b) Examination for renewal of certification.~~

~~If you are a first responder or an EMT, you may choose to complete an approved OTEP program instead of completing the required number of CME hours and taking the recertification exam.~~

Recertification for all levels of EMS personnel may be obtained through the CME method, which includes completing written and practical skills examinations, or through the Ongoing Training and Evaluation Program (OTEP) method, which includes written and practical skills evaluations.

~~(1) (2) To apply for renewal of certification, submit to the department on approved forms the applicant must provide information that addresses the requirements all the information identified in WAC 246-976-141(2); EXCEPT current certification is considered proof of course completion, age, and initial infectious disease training;~~

- ~~(a) Proof of successful completion of CME education and skills maintenance, required for the level of certification sought, as defined in this chapter and identified on the table above in Tables A and B of 246-976-161. For first responders and EMTs, this includes proof of successful demonstration of skills, by:~~
  - ~~(i) Successfully completing an approved OTEP; or~~
  - ~~(ii) Passing an approved practical examination within the six months prior to application. An applicant changing from the ongoing training and evaluation program to the practical examination program must take the practical examination prior to the end of the certification period.~~
- ~~(b) Demonstrate knowledge and practical skills competency:~~
  - ~~(i) For individuals participating in the OTEP method of education at the level of certification, successful completion of the OTEP fulfills the requirement of the DOH written and practical skills examinations.~~
  - ~~(ii) Individuals completing the CME method of education must provide proof of successful completion of the DOH written examination and practical skills examination for the level of certification.~~
    - ~~(A) Basic Life Support (BLS) and Intermediate Life Support (ILS) personnel must successfully complete the DOH approved practical skills examination for the level of certification.~~
    - ~~(B) Paramedics must successfully complete practical skills evaluations required by the MPD to determine ongoing competence.~~



## **WAC 246-976-930 General responsibilities of the department.**

In addition to the requirements described in chapters 18.71, 18.73, and 70.168 RCW, and elsewhere in this chapter:

- (1) The department shall review, recommend changes to, and approve regional plans and regional patient care procedures based on the requirements of this chapter and recommendations from the steering committee, and upon consideration of the needs of patients.
  - (a) The department may approve regional plans which include standards that are consistent with chapter 70.168 RCW and other state and federal laws, but which exceed the requirements of this chapter.
  - (b) The department will develop a process for biennial update of regional and state-wide planning. The process will include provisions to amend regional plans between biennial updates.
- (2) The department will publish educational requirements for the recertification of EMS personnel as provided in WAC 246-976-161. ~~standards for minimum required knowledge and skill objectives for ongoing training and evaluation programs (OTEP) for first responders and EMTs, as authorized in RCW 18.73.081 (3)(b). The department will publish procedures to approve OTEPs.~~
- (3) The department will publish prehospital trauma triage procedures for activation of the trauma system from the field. The procedures will include assessment of the patient's:
  - (a) Vital signs and level of consciousness;
  - (b) Anatomy of injury;
  - (c) Biomechanics of the injury; and
  - (d) Comorbid and associated risk factors.
- (4) The department may approve pilot programs and projects which have:
  - (a) Stated objectives;
  - (b) A specified beginning and ending date;
  - (c) An identified way to measure the outcome;
  - (d) A review process;
  - (e) A work plan with a time line;
  - (f) If training of EMS/TC personnel is involved, consistency with the requirements of WAC 246-976-021(5).
- (5) The department will review at least every four years:
  - (a) Rules, policies, and standards for EMS/TC, with the advice of the steering committee;
  - (b) Rules and standards for licensure of services and vehicles, and for certification of EMS/TC personnel, with the advice of the L&C committee;